

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3860
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2016
Free Tool Kit to Artisans
Suman Shri Balka

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to provide free tool kits to Minority, Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and BPL artisans and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has issued "PAHACHAN" card to give national identity to the artisans and to cover them under a national database so as to enable them to get benefits of Government schemes and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to impart training to artisans by nationally acclaimed designers under "Guru Shishya Parampara" initiative; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TEXTILES
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The Government implements a scheme named Direct benefits to Artisans under National Handicraft Development Programme [NHDP] for providing financial assistance as per norms for supply of tools, safety equipments, looms, furnace etc. All the Handicrafts Artisans including minority, Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe and BPL artisans are eligible to get benefits under this scheme.

(b): Yes, Madam. The Government has launched "Pehchan", an initiative to register and provide Identity Cards to Handicrafts Artisans under a national database on 7th October, 2016. 2,24,742 number of applications have been collected through camps and 1,08,065 number of Identity Cards have been printed till 30.11.2016.

(c) & (d): Under the scheme "Guru Shishya Parampara", only those artisans who are Padmashree/Shilpguru/National Awardee/State Awardee and other talented Craftsperson who have dedicated their career for upgrading a particular craft of their region are eligible for imparting such training program.
